

Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC)

Meeting Notes

Thursday, June 11, 2015

Hoover Building, 5 NE, Side 2

Members in attendance: Mindy Norwood, Wendy Rickman, and Nola Aalberts

Members by phone: Mike Mitchell, Mike Arndt, Holly Karr White, Cheryl Plank, Tom Bouska, Mary Macumber Schmidt, and Debbie Orduna

Members not in attendance: Jon Wetlaufer, Julie Allison, Dawn Turner, Jen Sievert, Rick Venenga, and Jean Slaybaugh

Observers in attendance: Martha Munro, Child Welfare Provider Training Academy Coordinator, Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa

Purpose of the Meeting:

The purpose of the meeting this month was to review committee membership terms and provide general updates.

Summary of Meeting:

Holly Karr White accepted a new position within the Department as a Service Contract Specialist so the remainder of her initial term will be filled by Leta Hosier, Social Work Administrator (SWA) from the Eastern Service Area. Leta will complete the partial term through 6.30.17 and will be eligible for a second term. Jennifer Sievert's membership term ends as of 6.30.15 and Debbie Orduna with Boystown will begin a new term effective 7.1.15 – 6.30.18 as a Coalition representative. Nola Aalberts' term also ends 6.30.15 which leaves a vacancy for a Non-Coalition member representative. Mike Mitchell's initial term ends on 6.30.15 and he will continue with a second term effective through 6.30.18. Julie Allison will continue as a member with no term end date and will serve by virtue of her position within the Department. There is one DHS position that will remain vacant at this time until a Service Area Manager (SAM) is identified to fill the position for the next three year membership term effective 7.1.15 – 6.30.18.

The private co-chair position is open for nomination and selection for the term of 7.1.15 – 6.30.16. Any volunteers and/or nominations should be provided to Mindy who will then bring back to the committee for approval. In order to fill the Non-Coalition representative membership, the CWPC will consider expanding the pool of applicants to include such program areas as Decategorization.

Casey Family Programs agreed to provide technical assistance to assist in the development of the next strategic plan. Wendy, Julie, Jen, Cheryl, and Mindy have been in conversations with Casey Family Programs to focus on the outcomes of the strategic planning meeting scheduled for August 19 – 20, 2015.

The annual statewide meeting was held on June 4, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Northwest. There have been a lot of positive comments shared about this meeting regarding the topics covered as well as the location of the meeting. The next step is to ask attendees to complete a survey to provide written feedback on what was useful and provide any suggestions into the next annual meeting. The draft survey questions were provided to the committee for review and it they were approved this date. Once the survey questions are incorporated into survey monkey, the link will be provided to all attendees with

a timeline identified for completion of the survey. Once the survey is closed, all of the information will be compiled into a report and provided to this committee.

There continue to be conversations around Differential Response (DR) but new updates at this time.

Information on DR can be accessed at the following:

<http://dhs.iowa.gov/child-welfare/differential-response>

There was a brief legislative and budget update provided. There was also brief discussion on federal legislation on Human Trafficking and upcoming rule changes.

Work Group Updates: (The following updates were provided by each of the co-chairs in attendance) - As of this meeting date, the active workgroups are as follows:

Training – Co-chairs are Mike Mitchell and Dawn Turner. Mike Mitchell provided a brief update on the joint training committee activities. The Six Principles of Partnership was a breakout session during the annual statewide meeting on 6.4.15. Mike shared that there were approximately 60 people who signed up at the session to take the lead in their local areas to carry the message forward. The Joint Training Committee members will help support these leads in supporting the message of the principles of partnership.

Next steps:

1. The July 9, 2015 is canceled.
2. The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for August 19 – 20, 2015 which will focus on Strategic Planning with Casey Family Programs facilitating the process.
3. Once the feedback results are compiled from the statewide meeting, the report will be provided to the committee for review.

Our Vision:

The combined experience and perspective of public and private agencies provide the best opportunity to reach our mutual goals: child safety, permanency, and well-being for Iowa's children and families. Collaboration and shared accountability will keep the focus on child welfare outcomes.